

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. Claims 6-21 and 23 are pending.
2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 C.F.R. 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
3. Authorization for this amendment was given in a telephone interview with Sagun KC on 12/18/2009.

In the claims:

4. In claim 6, line 1, the phrase "a polypeptide" has been changed to --an isolated polypeptide--.
5. In claim 12, line 1, the phrase "The polypeptide" has been changed to --The isolated polypeptide--.
6. In claim 13, line 1, the phrase "the polypeptide" has been changed to --the isolated polypeptide--.
7. In claim 14, line 1, the phrase "the polypeptide" has been changed to --the isolated polypeptide--.

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8. In claim 17, line 1, the phrase "a polypeptide" has been changed to --an isolated polypeptide--.
9. In claim 23, line 1, the phrase "The polypeptide" has been changed to --The isolated polypeptide--.
6. Claims 7-11, 15-16 and 18-21 are cancelled.
7. Claims 6, 12-14, 17 and 23 are allowed.
8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nora M. Rooney whose telephone number is (571) 272-9937. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm. A message may be left on the examiner's voice mail service. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ram Shukla can be reached on (571) 272-0735. The fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

December 18, 2009
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/Maher M. Haddad/

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